PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 215743/RV/jn	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See item 4 below
International application No. PCT/NL2005/000434	International filing date (day/month/year) 14 June 2005 (14.06.2005)	Priority date (day/month/year) 15 June 2004 (15.06.2004)
International Patent Classification (8th See relevant Information In Form P		
Applicant TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITEIT EIN	DHOVEN	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 7 sheets, including this cover sheet. In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Se to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead. 3. This report contains indications relating to the following items: Box No. I Basis of the report Box No. II Priority Box No. II Non-establishment of opinion with regard to a applicability Box No. IV Lock of unity of invention Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 25(2) with a applicability; citations and explanations support applicability; citations and explanations support Box No. VI Certain documents cited Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application Box No. VII Certain observations on the international application contents cited that the property of the international application and except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the content of the property of the squares of the sq	nternational Bureau on behalf of the
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The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1214 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Nora Lindner
Facsimile No. +41 22 338 82 70 e-mail: pt02@wipc	int

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From INTE	ihe RNATIONAL SEA	RCHING AUTH	ORITY					
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1.	This opinion co	ontains Indicati	ons relating	to the folio	owing items:			
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	Box No. !	Priority						
	☐ Box No. III	Non-establish	ment of opinio	n with rega	ard to novelty, i	inventive :	step and Industrial appli	cability
	☐ Box No. IV	Lack of unity of	of Invention					
	☑ Box No. V				.1(a)(i) with reg supporting su		velty, inventive step or rent	industrial
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	☐ Box No. VIII	Certain observ	ations on the	internation	al application			
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International application No. PCT/NL2005/000434

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1.	Wi	th re	gard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
	X	the	international application in the language in which it was filed
		a t pu	ranslation of the International application into , which is the language of a translation furnished for the rposes of international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1 (b)).
2.			gard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and ary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
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			contained in the international application as filed.
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4.	Add	ditio	nal comments:

International application No. PCT/NL2005/000434

Box No. V Reesoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)

Yes: Claims

2-6, 8, 13-22

No: Claims

1, 7, 9-12

Inventive step (IS)

Yes: Claims

16-18

No: Claims

1-15, 19-22

Industrial applicability (IA)

Yes: Claims

No: Claims

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

Re Item V.

Reference is made to the following documents:

D1: US-B1-6475217 D2: WO-A1-01/70114 D3: US-A-5163910 D4: WO-A2-01/62169 D5: WO-A1-95/24111

- The present application does not meet the criteria of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject-matter of claims 1, 7, 9-12 is not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT.
- 1.1 The document D1, which is regarded as being the closest prior art to the subject-matter of claim 1, discloses (see fig. 3, 5; the references in parentheses applying to this document):

A device for generating a local cold plasma (46) over the surface of an object (50), comprising a HF power source (22), a plasma chamber (40), an active electrode (48) placed in the plasma chamber (40) and electrically connected to the HF power source (22), a passageway (28) for a plasma gas leading to the plasma chamber (40) nearby the active electrode (48), with steering means (160) capable of orienting the active electrode (48) with reference to the object (50).

The subject-matter of claim 1 is therefore not new, according to Article 33(2) PCT.

- 1.2 Further, D1 discloses an assembly containing all the additional features of dependent claims 7, 9-12, which therefore are not new. In particular:
 - claim 7: the steering means comprises a shape memory material (col. 4, lines 18-22);
 - claim 9: the steering means is placed around the active electrode (fig.3, 5);
 - claims 10-12: the device comprises a catheter, with a proximal end and a distal end,

where the active electrode is placed in the distal end, which forms an open plasma chamber (fig.3, 5).

- Dependent claims 2-6, 8, 13-15, 19-22 do not contain any features which, in combination
 with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of the PCT in
 respect of inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT), the reasons being as follows:
- 2.1 The subject-matter of claims 2-5 is obvious in the light of D1 and D2 (page 25, lines 5-10; page 35, line 26 page 36, line 6);
- 2.2 The subject-matter of claim 6 is obvious in the light of D1 and D3 (col. 5, lines 60-67);
- 2.3 The subject-matter of claim 8 is obvious in the light of D1 and D2 (page 37, lines 1-16);
- 2.4 The subject-matter of claims 13-15 is obvious in the light of D1 and D4 (page 42, lines 24-29);
- 2.5 The subject-matter of claim 19 is obvious in the light of D1 and D3 (col. 5, lines 42-46);
- 2.6 The subject-matter of claims 20-22 is obvious in the light of D1 and D5 (page 3, lines 18-21; page 5, line 29 page 6, line 9).
- 3. The combination of the features of dependent claims 16-18 is neither known from, nor rendered obvious, by the prior art, the reasons being as follows: The possibility for the gas to flow coaxially outside the outer conductor, and with distance rings placed between the outer conductor and the external casing, is not suggested by the available prior art.

4. Additional remark

The drawing reference signs should be indicated in the claims (Guidelines, 5.11).

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY (SEPARATE SHEET)

International application No.

PCT/NL2005/000434

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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	☐ Box No. III			n With reg	ard to novelty, i	nventive :	slep and industrial appli	cability
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2.	FURTHER ACT	ION						
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	Fax: +31	70 340 - 3016				Telepho	ne No. +31 70 340-3221	Marie and Co.

International application No. PCT/NL2005/000434

	Box	x No	o. 1 Basis of the opinion
1.	Wit	h re	gard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
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		a t pu	ranslation of the international application into , which is the language of a translation furnished for the rposes of international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1 (b)).
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	1		contained in the international application as filed.
	i		filed together with the international application in electronic form.
	i		furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3.	□	ha co	addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto s been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional pies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as propriate, were furnished.
4	Add	ditio	nal comments:

International application No. PCT/NL2005/000434

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2-6, 8, 13-22

No: Claims

1, 7, 9-12

Inventive step (IS)

Yes: Claims

16-18

No: Claims

1-15, 19-22

Industrial applicability (IA)

Yes: Claims No: Claims

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

Re Item V.

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- 1.2 Further, D1 discloses an assembly containing all the additional features of dependent claims 7, 9-12, which therefore are not new. In particular:
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 - claim 9: the steering means is placed around the active electrode (fig.3, 5);
 - claims 10-12: the device comprises a catheter, with a proximal end and a distal end,

where the active electrode is placed in the distal end, which forms an open plasma chamber (fig.3, 5).

- Dependent claims 2-6, 8, 13-15, 19-22 do not contain any features which, in combination
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- 2.2 The subject-matter of claim 6 is obvious in the light of D1 and D3 (col. 5, lines 60-67);
- 2.3 The subject-matter of claim 8 is obvious in the light of D1 and D2 (page 37, lines 1-16);
- 2.4 The subject-matter of claims 13-15 is obvious in the light of D1 and D4 (page 42, lines 24-29);
- 2.5 The subject-matter of claim 19 is obvious in the light of D1 and D3 (col. 5, lines 42-46);
- 2.6 The subject-matter of claims 20-22 is obvious in the light of D1 and D5 (page 3, lines 18-21; page 5, line 29 page 6, line 9).
- 3. The combination of the features of dependent claims 16-18 is neither known from, nor rendered obvious, by the prior art, the reasons being as follows:
 The possibility for the gas to flow coaxially outside the outer conductor, and with distance rings placed between the outer conductor and the external casing, is not suggested by the available prior art.

Additional remark

The drawing reference signs should be indicated in the claims (Guidelines, 5.11).

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY (SEPARATE SHEET)

International application No.

PCT/NL2005/000434

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



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(43) International Publication Date 29 December 2005 (29.12.2005)

(10) International Publication Number WO 2005/125287 A3

(51) International Patent Classification: H05H 1/24 (2006.01) A61B 18/00 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number: PCT/NL2005/000434

(22) International Filing Date: 14 June 2005 (14.06.2005)

(25) Filing Language:

Dutch

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data: 1026422

15 June 2004 (15.06.2004) NL

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): TECH-NISCHE UNIVERSITEIT EINDHOVEN [NLANL]; Den Dolech 2, NL-5612 AZ Bindhoven (NL)

(72) Inventors; and

- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): STOF-FELS-ADAMOWICZ, Eva [BE/BE]; Turnhoutsebaan 90, B-5470 Retie (BB), FRANKEN, Martijn [NL/NL]; Prunellanad 31, NL-5643 BW Eindhoven (NL). STEIN-BUCH, Maarten [NL/NL]; Medevoort 7, NL-5707 DD Helmond (NL). VAN DER LAAN, Ewout, Peter [NL/NL]; Stellenboschstraat 130, NL-5642 GM Bindhoven (NL).
- (74) Agents: VALKONET, Rutger et al.; Algemeen Octrooien Merkenbureau, P.O. Box 645, NL-5600 AP Bindhoven (NL).

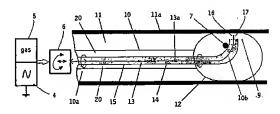
- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KB, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, BE, ES, FL; FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SB, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BR, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Pablished:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments
- (88) Date of publication of the international search report: 3 August 2006

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: DEVICE FOR CREATING A LOCAL PLASMA AT THE LOCATION OF AN OBJECT



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a device for creating a local cold plasma at the location of an object, said device at least comprising a high-frequency power source, a year.

is electrically connected to said high-frequency power source, as well as a supply line for a plasma gas, which opens may be provide an improved device as referred chamber at a location near the plasma discharge electrode. The object of the invention is to provide an improved device as referred chamber at a location near the plasma discharge electrode. The object of the invention is to provide an improved device as referred chamber at a location near the plasma discharge electrode. The object of the invention is to provide an improved device as referred. comprising a high-frequency power source, a plasma chamber, a plasma discharge electrode disposed in said plasma chamber, which according to the invention is characterized in that the device comprises adjusting means arranged for automatically orienting the plasma discharge electrode relative to the object.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

T/NL2005/000434

INV.	FICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER H05H1/24 A61B18/00		
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C. DOCUM	ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANY		
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To-

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(PCT Administrative Instructions, Section 411)

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International filing date (day/month/year) 14 June 2005 (14.06.2005)

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Applicant

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International application No.

PCT/NL2005/000434

International publication date (day/month/year)

TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITEIT EINDHOVEN et al

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- 2. (If applicable) The letters "NR" appearing in the right-hand column denote a priority document which, on the date of mailing of this Form, had not yet been received by the International Bureau under Rule 17.1(a) or (b). Where, under Rule 17.1(a), the priority document must be submitted by the applicant to the receiving Office or the International Bureau, but the applicant fails to submit the priority document within the applicable time limit under that Rule, the attention of the applicant is directed to Rule 17.1(c) which provides that no designated Office may disregard the priority claim concerned before giving the applicant an opportunity, upon entry into the national phase, to furnish the priority document within a time limit which is reasonable under the
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